

REMARKS

Claims 42-61 are pending in this application. Claim 46 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 42 and 59 have been amended by the present Amendment. No new matter is added by the amendment to claims 42 and 59.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 46 and 59 have been objected to for the reasons stated on page 2 of the October 3, 2008 Office Action. Applicant has canceled claim 46, but has amended the limitations of claim 46 (now incorporated into claim 42) in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. In addition, Applicant has amended claim 59 as per the Examiner's suggestion.

Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claims 46 and 59.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 42-45 and 47-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,738,120 ("Song") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,745,207 ("Asada") and U.S. Patent No. 7,119,870 ("Nishikawa").

Applicant has amended claim 42 and cancelled claim 46 from further consideration in this application so as to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 46 into claim 42.

Applicant submits that none of the cited references, when taken alone or in combination, discloses that a distance between the major edges of each tilt region and the curved portions of the second signal lines is in a range between about 10 microns

and about 30 microns, as recited in amended claim 42.

Further, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously presented claim 42 is not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendment and cancellation are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue this and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Therefore, Applicant maintains that amended claim 42 is patentable over the cited references.

Further, for at least the reason that claims 43-45 and 47-49 depend from claim 42, claims 43-45 and 47-49 are also submitted to be patentably distinct over the cited references.

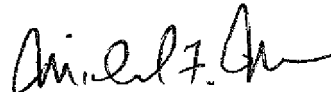
As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 42-45 and 47-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 51-61 are allowed, and that claims 46 and 50 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicant's Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Morano", is written over a horizontal line.

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